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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/573,214

03/24/2006

Ayako Nanjyo

F-8958

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EXAMINER

TREYGER, ILYA Y

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3761

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/09/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/573,214	Applicant(s) NANJYO ET AL.	
	Examiner ILYA Y. TREYGER	Art Unit 3761	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/24/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-5 of the US Patent Application No. 10/573,214 filed 03/24/2006 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

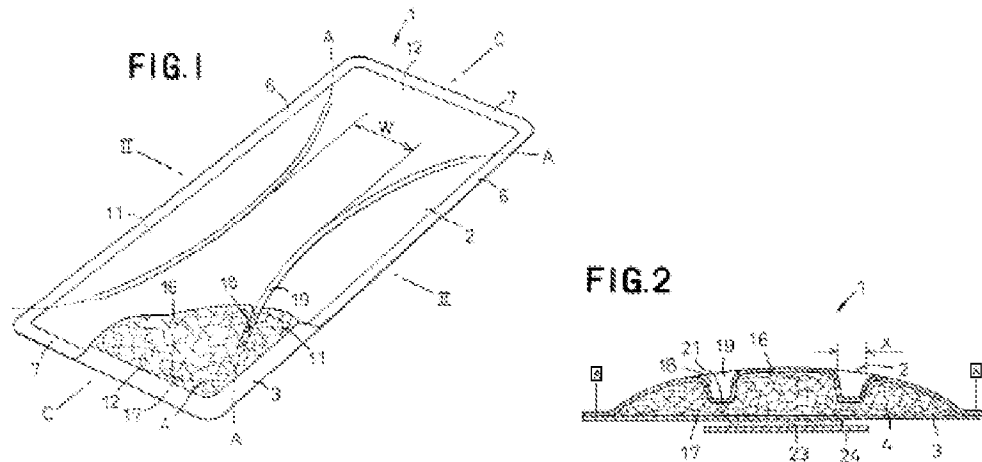
3. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shimoe et al. (US 6,867,345).

Shimoe discloses the sanitary napkin (absorbent article) 1 (Figs. 1 and 2) comprising a liquid-pervious topsheet 2 (Figs. 1 and 2), a liquid-impervious backsheet 3 (Figs. 1 and 2) and a liquid-absorbent core 4 (Figs. 1 and 2) disposed between the topsheet 2 and the backsheet 3 (Col. 3, ln. 3-6); the topsheet 2 is formed with a pair of second grooves (leakage preventing grooves) 19 depressed and curved in coincidence with the first grooves 18 (Col. 3, ln. 21-24; Figs. 1 and 2); wherein the leakage preventing grooves 19 (Fig. 2) are deeper than a thickness of the middle-height portion and reach the standard portion absorbent body (See Fig. 2); wherein the thinned portion A (Fig. 2) obtained by thinning the middle-height portion by press is formed on outsides of the leakage preventing grooves 19 (Fig. 2); wherein the middle-height portion is formed

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between front and rear lines W (Fig. 1) fully capable to be a folding lines for folding the absorbent article in three at the time of individual packaging; and wherein the thickness of the standard portion absorbent body is 1 to 15 mm (Col. 3, ln. 35, 36), what encompasses 1-3 mm as claimed.



Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 6,563,013 disclose the ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING CHANNEL. US 5,807,363 disclose the ABSORBENT ARTICLE. US 5,795,345 disclose the SANITARY NAPKIN. US 6,410,822 disclose the SANITARY NAPKIN HAVING ELASTIC MEMBER THAT LIFTS UPPER PORTION THEREOF. US 6,858,771 disclose the ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH COMPRESSED GROOVES. US 5,891,118 disclose the ABSORBENT ARTICLE.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ILYA Y. TREYGER whose telephone number is (571)270-3217. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tatyana Zalukaeva can be reached on 571-272-1115. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ilya Treyger
Examiner
AU 3761

//Leslie R. Deak//
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3761
7 May 2008